

2003 Maine STD Incidence

During the period January 1, 2003 to July 31, 2003, the Bureau of Health received reports of 1,174 chlamydia diagnoses, 126 gonorrhea diagnoses, and 9 cases of infectious syphilis. All three of these diseases continue to be diagnosed at elevated levels. The number of gonorrhea reports received thus far in 2003 is 86% greater than the number received during the same time period last year. A higher volume of chlamydia has also been reported, with a 35% increase over the 2002 to-date total. At this time last year only one case of syphilis had been reported, indicating an increase for this disease, as well.

Gonorrhea and syphilis were seen most frequently among residents of central and southern Maine, while chlamydia diagnoses were distributed evenly throughout the state. Men who have sex with men (MSM) are disproportionately affected by gonorrhea and syphilis, comprising 44% of gonorrhea diagnoses and seven of the nine syphilis diagnoses. Chlamydia infections were most often diagnosed in young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years old, with this age group accounting for 76% of diagnoses this year. The table below shows specific information for 2003 Chlamydia and Gonorrhea diagnoses.

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Diagnoses in Maine, January to July, 2003

(rounded percents are listed in parentheses)

Sex	Chlamydia reported since 1/1/2003	Gonorrhea reported since 1/1/2003
Male	349 (30)	89 (71)
Female	825 (70)	37 (29)
Total	1174 (100)	126 (100)
Race	Chlamydia reported since 1/1/2003	Gonorrhea reported since 1/1/2003
White	910 (78)	106 (84)
Black or African American	18 (2)	12 (10)
Asian	9 (1)	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	7 (1)	1 (1)
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0	0
More than one Race	0	0
Some Other Race	0	0
Unknown	230 (20)	7 (6)
Total	1174 (100)	126 (100)
Ethnicity	Chlamydia reported since 1/1/2003	Gonorrhea reported since 1/1/2003
Hispanic	4 (0)	5 (4)
Not Hispanic	933 (79)	121 (96)
Unknown	237 (20)	0
Total	1174 (100)	126 (100)
Age	Chlamydia reported since 1/1/2003	Gonorrhea reported since 1/1/2003
less than 15	5 (0)	0
15-19	410 (35)	20 (16)
20-24	481 (41)	43 (34)
25-29	141 (12)	19 (15)
30-39	101 (9)	34 (27)
40-54	28 (2)	10 (8)
55+	0	0
Age Unknown	8 (1)	0
Total	1174 (100)	126 (100)
Region of Residence	Chlamydia reported since 1/1/2003	Gonorrhea reported since 1/1/2003
Northern ¹	300 (26)	10 (8)
Central ²	471 (40)	47 (37)
Southern ³	385 (33)	68 (54)
Unknown	18 (2)	1 (1)
Total	1174 (100)	126 (100)

¹**Northern Maine:** Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington Counties.

²**Central Maine:** Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset, Waldo Counties.

³**Southern Maine:** Cumberland and York Counties.